

Application No. 09/924,955
Inventor: Una QUINLAN
Application Filed: August 8, 2001
Response and Amendment to Office Action mailed March 22, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claim 1-11, 13-14, and 16-20 are pending. Claims 12 and 15 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 13-14, 16-18, and 20 are amended.

This is a response under 37 CFR §1.116. The specific amendments and arguments herein, to the extent they were not presented earlier, are now presented because they are necessitated by the arguments made by the Examiner in the last office action. It is submitted that these amendments and remarks do not raise new issues and do not require any further searching.

Since this response has been filed within two months of the mailing date of the Final Rejection, in the event that the Examiner does not issue a Notice of Allowability, a timely Advisory Action is requested.

For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims 1-11, 13-14 and 16-20 are now allowable.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant herein acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 15 and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

To further advance the prosecution of the present application to allowance and issue, Applicant herein has amended independent claim 1 to include the limitations of dependent claim 12 and 15. Moreover, independent claims 14 and 20 are likewise amended to incorporate the limitations of the allowable subject matter as claimed in dependent claim 15.

As such, the Examiner's rejections of the pending claims based on the US Patent No. 5,884,041 ("the Hurwitz reference") is now moot.

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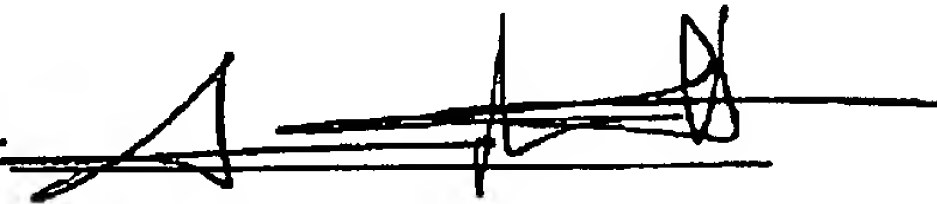
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims 1-11, 13-14, and 16-20 are now allowable.

If the Examiner deems a telephonic discussion of the pending application would be helpful in the examination of the pending claims, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the Applicant's representative at (510) 652-6418.

Respectfully submitted,
JACSON & CO.. LLP

Dated: May 23, 2005

By: 
Seong-Kun Oh, Esq.
Reg. No. 48,210

Attorneys for Applicant
Customer No. 30349

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